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8 November 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Bernard Drell

SUBJECT : Review of Ronald Spector, The US Army in Indochina 1942-1945 from the point of view of the releasability of certain passages relating to OSS many of which are based upon the OSS archives.

ASSUMPTION : This MS is destined for publication as an unclassified book.

1. General: This is a short manuscript (95 double-spaced pages) relating to a very minor commitment of the US Army.

Representatives of the OSS in the Far East enter the story in only half a dozen places. About 21 pages bear directly or peripherally on OSS matters. These are pp. 11, 20, 27-34, 54-58, 75, 749-83.

2. If it were my responsibility I would object to none of the text related to the OSS. Nothing in it, for example, deals with OSS intelligence "sources and methods", nothing with OSS operational techniques. A few pages carry what a sensitive soul might call derogatory comment on the French (see esp. pp. 57-8), but should surely not offend the present French government.

3. Certain OSS operations are noted and sometimes by their codenames (i.e.) "Deer" and "Cat" to the north, and "Quail" to Saigon. Of OSS mission leaders Major Archimedes Patti gets the most attention and not all of it is laudatory. Sainteny, one of the major French figures in the north of Indochina has written a book in which he has some unkind remarks about Patti and

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these are repeated here (p. 56). Obviously there would be no grounds to try to stop the republication of these remarks even if one wanted to. The US general Gallagher and Colonel Bane also have some tart comments on Patti (pp. 56-7) but these do not come from OSS materials.

4. In addition to the mention of Patti by name, the following OSS officers are noted: Charles Fenn, *Paul E. Helliwell, *Willis H. Bird, (?) Myeland, John W. Summers, *Allison K. Thomas, Charles M. Holland, Z. C. Ebaugh, *Joseph Coolidge, and *Peter Dewey. Those which I have starred appear also in the book by R.H. Smith, OSS.

5. Incidentally, OSS comes off much better at the hands of Mr. Spector than say at those of Mr. Smith. 25X1A